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Vice President: Alan Ritchie
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Exhibitions Sub-Committee: Bob Davis, Ian McRae, Graham Ethell, Fred Seligmann (media) & Kevin Winter
Property Sub-Committee: Richard Cain, Malcolm Armstrong, Graham Ethell, Bill Lewis & Peter Mott
Toymaking: Malcolm Armstrong, Barry Gardner, Roger Dixon, Ian Rudd, Ken Tyson & Kevin Winter
Woodcarvers' Liason: Kevin Winter

Our latest delivery to the Therapists at the SYDNEY CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL, RANDWICK, 27 March, 2015. Story page 4.



OUR MARKET STALL outside our LILLI PILLI WORKSHOP on Saturday 28 March, 2015 Story page 4

*They say I
weild a hammer
like lightning.
Not fast but I
never strike in
the same place
twice.*



Member Profile:

Steven Lansley

Member No.



Steve is a Sydney boy born August, 1953. He received his primary education at Beralla Public School. In 1971 he completed his secondary schooling at Taree High School in year 12 securing his Higher School Certificate.

Steve completed his accountancy course during his early working years.

His first job was at the PERMAREST bedding company and he stayed for 3 years.

His next employer was ESSO where he found his **IT** niche (or it found him) about half way through his service during 1974-1981.

RANK XEROX put food on the table for about the next 18 months.

He was now seriously settling down this **IT** business and was a skilled valued employee of the organisations he worked for until retirement at the 'ripe old age of 61'.

Leaving Rank Xerox in 1983 he joined the staff of AGC Finance which merged with Westpac Bank. His association with AGC/Westpac continued until Westpac outsourced their **IT** work to **IBM** in 2000.

From 2000-2014 IBM was Steve's final employer when he retired from the company during 2014.

Steve is married to Christine. Their extended family includes 7 children and 7 grandchildren aged from 8 years to 2 days (at the time of writing this).

Steve has travelled extensively throughout Europe, Canada, New Zealand and Fiji.

He is planning a trip to China during September this year.

Living at Lalor Park, Steve was Scoutmaster from 1996 to 2008 and during this time he was an active member of the Cumberland Woodworker's Club.

In 2010 he relocated to Kurnell from the Blacktown area. (Cumberland's loss is SWC 's gain). (sorry Cumberland).

Steve's hobbies are vintage motor cars and woodwork. He is keen to be involved in toy making for our Charities.

He has a couple of non-woodworking show and tell items. I am equally sure we cannot offer sufficient appropriate bench space to show them on a Maxi-day. However it would be a scoop if they were driven to the Club House for us to see !

In his vintage motor car department Steve has a 1920 Hupmobile in original condition and the 1926 Chevrolet is a work in progress, about 98% complete.

Steve we hope you have lots of woodworking time and don't get too side tracked with those wonderful cars.

Welcome to the Shire Woodworkers (SWC). The toy making department is always keen for more makers.

Fred Seligmann



A couple of years ago a local Lilli Pilli resident, Kelvin Hundt, gifted the Club some great Silky Oak planks. We also found out at the time that he had for a number of years been building in his home workshop a 7" scale steam locomotive. This is a huge project. Well Kelvin dropped in to see us on election Day and left with us some photos of the current state of this locomotive project. Here are a few of them. He still has some years of work before it will be finished.



Raffle Prize Winners

MARCH 2015 MAXIDAY

- 1st Prize: Bob Davis \$25.00**
- 2nd Prize Ian McRae \$15.00**
- 3rd Prize Ian Rudd \$5.00**
- 4th Prize Malcolm Armstrong Bottle of Wine**

**MAXIDAY: SATURDAY
11 APRIL 2015...AGENDA**

- 8:45am Open Lilli Pilli Workshop
- 9:00am Monthly Meeting
- 9.30am Video
- 10:00am Morning Tea
- 10:30am Show & Tell
- 11:00am Lets have a go at some wood carving with the help of Don Williams
- 12:00noon Lunch
- 1:00pm Raffle Draw
- 1:15pm Lets have a go at some wood carving with the help of Don Williams (cont.)
- 2:30pm Members own projects
- About 4:00pm Close

If you would like to receive this Newsletter please email the editor at shirewoodworking@bigpond.com

HOW TO MAKE WOOD TURN CORNERS!

Our resident Ukulele and Dulcimer musician and maker, David Whitney, led us through a most entertaining and informative presentation on how he bends wood to his wishes for his Ukuleles' at our March Maxiday. David' presentation included the following.

WHY WILL STEAMING ENABLE BENDING

All timber will have some degree of elasticity and if bent will revert to its normal shape when released, refer limbs blowing in the wind. The circular wood cells are surrounded by an elastic type material called lignum and if steamed properly the lignum will soften and lose its grip on the wood cells and allows them to slip and consequently the timber will bend. When held in a different shape and the lignum cools and dries, it hardens setting the timber to the shape of the mould.

TIMBER SELECTION

Number of factors:

DURABILITY - Resistance to decay and insect attack, exposure to weather and wet conditions. Stay away from sapwood unless suitably treated. This factor is more relevant to outdoor furniture etc. that we would make.

STRENGTH - Is a factor if the subject is under load bearing stress. As no one will be building railway bridges this will not be of concern for us.

GRAIN - straight-grained timber is essential for sharp and difficult bends. Timber should not be from sloping or interlocked grain and should be free of defects such as knots and gum veins. If you can not get away from small knots, be sure they are on the outside bend.

MOISTURE CONTENT- most timber will bend best at around 20% - 25%. The higher this percentage the more likelihood of crumpling on the inner face of the bend. Alternatively, if too dry, failure will occur on the outside face of the bend where the timber is in tension. This holds particularly true if you use hot air (heat gun) for the bending

BACK SAWN MATERIAL: is better than quarter sawn if timber has prominent medullary rays that causes wrinkling on the compressed face. Quarter sawn timber has the grain almost perpendicular (look at the end grain). Back sawn timber has the grain running almost parallel to the flat side of the timber.

METHOD

PREPARATION:

Timber should be dressed prior to bending. Saw marks and other defects can give rise to local failures. The better this is done prior to steaming gives a greater working time whilst the timber is still hot.

To help in bending, dress to the minimum thickness required. There should be a MINIMUM amount of dressing after bend has been set.

SOFTENING THE TIMBER:

When steaming, do so at rate of 1 hour for every 25 mm of thickness. Do not oversteam as this can cause excessive shrinkage, checking and warping during the re-drying. There are other chemical methods of softening timber e.g. ammonia but are not being discussed here.

Immersing in boiling water can be done but is not recommended as it increases the moisture content of the wood considerably and it may stain the wood, accentuates shrinkage, checking and warping. It may also affect the strength of the timber.

BENDING

Pressing the timber by hand around a pre-cut or shaped jig is the most common. For just a single bend, say a long curve ending in a tight radius using a metal bend strap (.8 mm thick) equal to width of the timber with adjustable blocks at each end. Use a reverse lever at one end to bend the wood. The purpose of the band is to apply sufficient stress on the outside curve of the wood to prevent the fibres from fracturing.

SEASONING

After bending and restraining in the shape desired timber must be dried reducing moisture content down from about 25% to about 10% 15% In coastal areas. This may be by means of a kiln or by air drying.

SPRING-BACK

This occurs after being taken out of the restraining device and could be up to about 20%. You may have to experiment here, but by increasing the curves in the jig during bending so that when spring back does occur, it will spring back approximately to your desired curvature.

LAMINATION

Very thick pieces of timber may be difficult or impossible to bend to a tight curve or radius. This problem may be solved by lamination. That is,

- cut the timber into thin strips and place in the steam box for the required time.
- bend on to the form or jig
- allow to dry completely



.....continued page 5

Our latest delivery to the Therapists at the SYDNEY CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL, RANDWICK, 27 March, 2015. continued from page 1

Barry, Fred, Ian, Kevin, Malcolm and Steve delivered approximately 478 items, pictured on the front page, to the most grateful therapists. A number of stories were told on how the items we make are used in the hospital. We will relay some of those stories at our General meeting on Saturday, 11 April, 2015. In fact an additional 106 items were delivered to the hospital by Kevin on a private visit earlier this year. Details of the items delivered included

- Ladybird Boxes x29
- Easter Rabbits (Flowered) x11
- Easter Rabbits (Solid) x28
- Rabbits (Family Group) x4
- Boats x8
- Guitars x75
- Train Engines x18
- Worry Boxes x29
- Keepsake Boxes x17
- Memory Boxes x28
- Percussion or Click Sticks Spotted Gum x107
- Percussion or Click Sticks round x85
- Fendered Cars x20
- Fendered truck x1
- Non fendered cars x6
- Large Tongue Drum x1
- Small Tongue Drum x1
- Bangles x9
- Soma Cube Puzzle x1
- Complex Jigsaw Puzzles x17
- Simple Jigsaw Puzzles x8
- Pyrographed coasters x6
- Complex freestanding puzzles x3
- Cut out shapes x14
- Playdough Rolling Pins x49
- Bags of material, lace and ribbon offcuts x3
- Bags of decorations x5



OUR ELECTION DAY STALL continued from page 1.

Thanks to the organisation of Secretary Graham and his helpers Peter, Warwick, Richard, Fred, Barry, Ian, Bob, Alan, Neil and Steve we had a most successful day not just selling some of our wares but also showing the community what we do in the former dilapidated sea scout hall. It was estimated that over two thousand people would have passed our doors on their way to vote at the Public Primary School.

We sold 47 items on the day that assisted providing needed funds for our Clubs activities.

It was interesting to note that no doubt during the day each of the candidates up for election in the electorate of Cronulla would have visited the Poling Booth some 50 metres from our display. It was only the sitting and returned member Mark Speakman who came for a chat. It is also noted that the local Federal Member Scott Morison, who voted at the Lilli Pilli booth, also stopped off for a chat.

WOOD DUST

Following our article on wood dust protection contained in our March Sawdust & Shavings Secretary Graham, pictured, introduced us to a dust mask call a "Dust Be Gone". The main features of the Dust be



Gone mask as per their promotional materials is it is designed to be used with nontoxic particles particularly woodworking dust and construction work (not to be used with paints fumes pesticides etc.) and is effective down to 3 microns. The unique filter material is lightweight and comfortable to wear, and can be washed by hand and reused. It should be worn continuously for maximum protection. It WON'T FOG YOUR GLASSES, is easy to breathe through and talk through if you teach or demonstrate. With normal use it should last 4 to 5 years and is available in three sizes medium, large, and extra large.

It is important to note it does not comply with the American Standard NOISH or OSHA. It does not mention whether it complies with the Australian P2 Standard. The assumption must be then that it does not otherwise it would be mentioned. Its cost to Club members would be \$44.00.

Any dust protection is better than none. However members must make their own decision as to whether to purchase and use one.

For further detail do a Google search "DustbeGone."

HOW TO MAKE WOOD TURN CORNERS!

.....continued from page 3

NOTE: spring back will likely occur. Glue the strips together and place back into the jig and allow sufficient time to dry. When taken out of the jig you will notice no spring back. The glueing has solved this problem. Note .that the ends of the timber do not end all together. Your timber must have some added length to accommodate this. When completed, trim the ends of the lamination to the desired length.

NAMES OF TIMBERS FOR BENDING

Go to QLD Forest Service for this chart, which will also show Distribution, Density, Strength, Durability, Availability, Colour, Lyctid susceptibility of all these timbers.

www.vccaq.org/bendingtimber

NOTE: For a bend, which is not too severe, many of the commonly available timbers will be satisfactory so there is no advantage in paying more for difficult to get species.

David's wood steaming contraption is a piece of galvanised down pipe. Sealed at one end which is set on a camp stove to produce the heat source. A jug of boiling water is poured into the downpipe. The wood to be steamed is inserted ensuring it does not lay on the downpipe and the end partly blocked with rags to enable the steaming process to commence. A pair of welding gloves are needed when the steamed wood is removed from the downpipe. Obviously one has to be very careful with this process as you are handling boiling water and steam.



What is it?

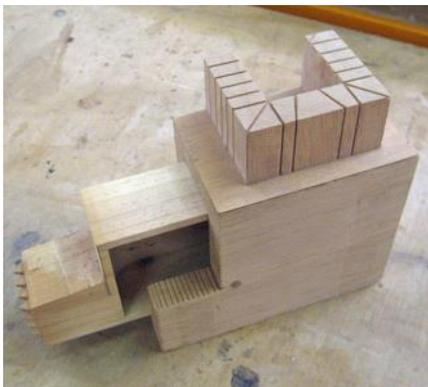
This "thing" has been lying around the Lilli Pilli Workshop for quite some time. Who brought it to the Club?



Also what the hell is it?

It is nicely made but has us all stumped as what it does and why.

Help!!!



From Secretary Graham, "The Red Cross runs a small shop at the Jannali station entrance selling small hand craft items. They had 3 round tables about 800mm diameter each, made from old pine board, which constantly made a mess.

With a kind donation of 16mm melamine from Ezy Boards at Kingsgrove, and then assistance from Roger Dixon, I cut three new round tops and glued edge strips to them. They are a significant improvement on what was there and the volunteers now don't have to put table cloths on the tables.

Photo of one of the old tops and a letter of thanks attached.



(I took a photo of the new top, but it wasn't very good - the photo, not the

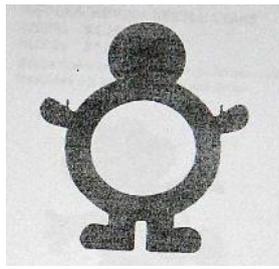
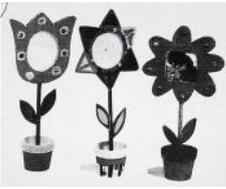
workmanship)."

Toymaking

Following our visit to the Children's Hospital reported on earlier, the Therapists have asked if we could make a few additional items for our next delivery. The first is a number of A4 size replica of the large Hope Trees we made last year. We were given a rough design as seen on right. They can be made from 4mm MDF or preferably 4mm to 6mm ply. Stack cutting should not be a problem. The design is flexible and we can use our imagination by rather having bare branches we could include leaves, hearts, diamonds etc. It will be interesting to see how the children use them.



A couple of other simple items included this picture frame and these flower boxes. So if you have some spare time just knock up a dozen or so. The children will thank you.



Alan Ritchie demonstrated his Router milling jig for the Triton WorkCentre at our March Maxiday

Alan noted "I needed to mill some cutting boards and decided I could make a jig to fit in my Triton Workcentre Table. The jig base was fitted with runners from a metal Triton router slide plate. The jig fits into the rails of the WorkCentre. A router fitted with a bowl cutting bit sits on the jig. There are stops around the edge of the jig to prevent the router running off the jig.

The WorkCentre table top is fitted underneath the rails in cross-cut mode. The router can move backwards and forwards in the jig while the jig can move sideways to mill an area about 200 mm wide by up to 800 mm long.



To mill wider boards, the board is moved on the table top. The board needs to be held firmly on the table top while milling work is done. The photo shows the jig ready for milling a cutting board."



A couple ideas on putting our scroll saws to work to aid modern technology. The first is a pistol grip for taking photo with your smart phone. While the second is a smart phone foot. Plans for both are available from your editor.



The Pumpkin the feature in the photo above was taken at this months Royal Easter Show. It weighed 728kgs. It was suggested by Ian Rudd that if we knew its circumference and divided that measurement by its diameter we would have pumpkin pie. Or should that be pumpkin π . I am only reporting please don't blame me. Ed.

Carving. Don Williams will be leading us into the wondrous world of woodcarving this coming Saturday. He will be covering.

- A place to work.
- Wood types and suitability.
- Holding the work.
- Tools: The different tools and their difference to a 'conventional' wood chisel, the feature of a carving gouge.
- Sharpening.
- How to approach carving, low relief & hi relief carving.
- Lowering background, levelling, rough shaping, undercutting and detailing etc, etc
- Finishing.
- Examples of tools and work will be on hand to demonstrate some of the above items.

The Royal Easter Show, Sydney 2015.

We are pleased to report and congratulate Keith Jones one of our friends at Oyster Bay for winning best in show with this beautiful bowl pictured at left. The following is a montage of entries in the woodwork section that were accepted for display at this years show.



SHOW & TELL MARCH 2015



Roger and his butcher blocks advised "The butchers block shown at last "Show & Tell" was built up from 64 blocks 60mm x 40 mm x 126mm of Vitex AKA Nuigini

Teak plus 12 blocks Merbau hardwoods. 9 rows were glued separately, then jointed and thickened so that the final width before gluing up into one block measured 307mm to fit through the large bandsaw. After overnight cramping the block was sliced into 3 chopping boards. Ian Rudd then took the boards home for milling before final sanding and oiling.



During the slicing process I encountered a worm hole that showed up on 2 surfaces. These were repaired by removing the top 10mm of each block with the hole and replacing timber from a spare block. After the final milling the repaired area was undetectable.

Without Ian's help with his milling machine I could not have taken on this project The final size was 465mm 305mm X 36mm thick



Malcolm has made this fine box and advised "The box started at February's maxi day with its theme, "Gifkin Jig and Box making". I took the opportunity to take a set of Beefwood pieces ready cut for a box. It was the second time I have used the Gifkin jig. I learnt some more about the router table....make sure the bit is tight! The dovetail bit moved meaning a dodgy joint that had to be cut off thus shortening the box. It was suggested I use some Hoop Pine to highlight the corners. I thought I would carry the idea through to the lid so I joined a few pieces of Hoop Pine together and laminated the lid including the knob. The oriental look came from some searches on Google for Lid ideas. The lift-off lid is located by rebates. I also added some feet, also of Hoop Pine. I lined the box with panels of stiffened felt attached by spray-on adhesive. The finish is wipe on satin polyurethane. Thanks again to all who helped me!"



PS: Beefwood is a name given to at least 20 Australian trees because of its reddish colourisation that resembles raw beef. It also is known as Cornbeefwood, Narrow-leafed Beefwood, Western Beefwood, White Beefwood, Killarney Beefwood and Scrub Beefwood.



Our resident Ukulele maker, David, has now produced his eighth Ukulele which he showed us last Maxiday.

Barry showed a couple more boats he made by his "20 minute" method described last issue of Sawdust & Shavings. The Children's Hospital thought they were great and remarked that the size was ideal as the children like to use Lego or similar people when playing with them. If this is the case then this enables us to roughly scale our toys this size. Here is a photo of Lego people. They are between 45mm and 50mm tall.



Therefore this equates to a scale of around 1/35th. A ten metre item would equate to a size of 286mm. This will get our mathematical members minds working.

Also Barry showed the box he completed after using the Laser Printer idea of imprinting an image on the box lid.



SHOW & TELL MARCH 2015



Steve showed his Scroll sawing expertise by completing this stage coach pattern that had been in the scroll saw pattern drawer for some time.



Bob showed us this cutting board and advised "It was made from American oak and Jarrah (donated to our club). The 45mm oak strips are divided, and edged with



19mm Jarrah for contrast and strength. I thickened the board to 22mm and inserted a 80mm decal made with the oak and jarrah which

was expertly crafted (scroll saw) by Milan. Then used the router for finger grips and rounded edges, followed by fine sanding. I finished oiling the board with natural wood wipe.

Ian presented this Art Deco Box and advised "I love much of the Art deco period and I saw a picture of an Italian



Art Deco Box that was made circa 1920 that was the inspiration for this box. The box is made from light coloured Australian Cedar and the hinge uses a 10 mm piece of dowel that is housed onto matching grooves in the lid and base. There are 3 mm brass pins fixed into the sides of the dowel to allow the lid to swing open. The box is finished with a satin Wipe on Poly. Making this box was enjoyable as it has such a tactile shape and lends itself to decoration."



Ian also presented this Teak and Banksia Nuts box and advised "This box is made from some teak that was given to SWC in February. The box uses a different design hinge that is basically a 10 mm rod of acrylic that locates in 5 mm radius grooves cut into the base and lid.



The lid opens to about 95 degrees and the inlay portion of the lid are strips of banksia nuts that have been sliced and fitted into the lid panel. The tray is lined with a red pigskin suede leather and the tray is also made from Teak.

The picture shows how the hinge is assembled."



Following on President Ray's advice in his report last month where our Club nominated Barry to receive a Seniors Week Award for his services to the Club, The Sydney Children's Hospital and as this Newsletter Editor for the past 11 years. He was presented this Award by our Local State Member for Cronulla Mark Speakman and by the Minister for Aging and Disability the Hon John Ajaka MLC at the Cronulla office of Mark on 5 March, 2015.

WHAT'S ON!

Saturday, 11 April, 2015 MAXIDAY

*Wood Carving
Show & Tell*

Tuesday, 14 April, 2015

Club Day, Lilli Pilli Workshop

Wednesday, 15 April, 2015

9:00am Club Day, Lilli Pilli Workshop

7:00pm Woodcarvers Meeting

Saturday, 18 April, 2015

Club Day, Lilli Pilli Workshop

Tuesday, 21 April, 2015

Club Day, Lilli Pilli Workshop

Wednesday, 22 April, 2015

Club Day, Lilli Pilli Workshop

Saturday, 25 April, 2015

Club Day, Lilli Pilli Workshop

Tuesday, 28 April, 2015

Club Day, Lilli Pilli Workshop

Wednesday 29 April, 2015

Club Day, Lilli Pilli Workshop

Saturday, 2 May, 2015

Woodcarvers Meeting

Tuesday, 5 May, 2015

Committee Meeting

Wednesday 6 May, 2015

Club Day, Lilli Pilli Workshop

Saturday, 9 May, 2015 MAXIDAY

*Picture Framing
Show & Tell*

Tuesday, 12 May, 2015

Club Day, Lilli Pilli Workshop

Wednesday, 13 May, 2015,

Club Day, Lilli Pilli Workshop

Saturday, 16 May, 2015

Club Day, Lilli Pilli Workshop

Tuesday, 19 May, 2015

Club Day, Lilli Pilli Workshop

Wednesday 20 May, 2015

9:00am Club Day, Lilli Pilli Workshop

7:00pm Woodcarvers Meeting

Saturday, 23 May, 2015

Woodcarvers Meeting

Tuesday, 26 May, 2015

Club Day, Lilli Pilli Workshop

Wednesday, 27 May, 2015,

Club Day, Lilli Pilli Workshop

Saturday, 30 May, 2015

Club Day, Lilli Pilli Workshop

Tuesday, 2 June, 2015

Committee Meeting

Wednesday, 3 May, 2015

Club Day, Lilli Pilli Workshop

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Previously, I raised the combination of a centralised dust extraction system to gain workable floor space and the increased member attendances. As an update, the system's progress has reached the stage where Graham Ethell our Secretary has submitted information on the relevant system detail from Micronair our preferred supplier, to the Sutherland Shire Council for discussion. The information included a site plan, the need for external security of the external part of the system together with our considerations and actions to date.

With attendances, I looked at the growing attendances over a four month period back in September 2013 that revealed a healthy growth to 14 mid week visits per day. An analysis of this year excluding January has shown our mid week numbers are consistent however with some peaks, one to 19 and with Wednesday being slightly more popular. So, it is reasonable to draw some conclusions; one that we have stabilised, confirmed the need for an increase in the workable floor space and as there has not been requests for additional days under our minimum three member safety rule, that, we do not need an additional week day at this point. With Saturdays, our Maxiday is consistent at an average of 30 on the day (only two days so far) and other Saturdays are around 10 per day.

One of our aims for 2015 was to continue with the achievements that connected us, such as the enthusiasm and teamwork in toy making and to encourage diversity. We saw tangible confirmation of these with Barry Gardner our Editor, reporting on the Randwick Children's Hospital delivery on the 17th March and the display of items for sale at the front of our workshop on the last Saturday, the 28th March, a NSW polling day. The fantastic variety and teamwork was evidenced in both, although a little different in that the Hospital received 30 differing unpainted items such as trucks, cars, puzzles, boats etc. The workshop display on polling day saw a greater range of finished items not only of high quality, but with a number being very intricate.

With the delivery to the Children's Hospital we had Ian Rudd, Malcolm Armstrong and Stephen Langsley in attendance with the "regulars". Thank you to these three who spent time and effort in producing items with Ian responsible for the popular butterfly boxes with Ken Tyson. It is timely to mention some of our members who work in the background continuously. So, back in the workshop with Ken Tyson is our Vice President, Alan Ritchie who continues to produce boxes in large volumes. Glenn Reave and our editor Barry produced the fended trucks with Barry finishing off some of the puzzles. Bill Lewis worked at home to make the steam engines.

A special thank you to Graham Ethell! Graham planned and organised the Workshop Sale on polling day. It was successful in the number of voters that showed interest and those who bought some of our items on display. Without embarrassing them I have to mention Ian Rudd and Barry Gardner again who were responsible for the value that they contributed to the sale. Ian with his wonderful cutting boards, stands etc and Barry with Jacob's ladders, hedgehogs, butterfly lid boxes etc. Ron O'Malley did well with just one item, a rocking horse and was matched by Peter Mott who restored a number of items to a similar amount.

Great teamwork, great production and quality! Sorry not to be able to mention all those who also made these two days successful. *Ray De Marco*

***Ever tried a bit of Carving then our April
Maxiday on Saturday, 11 April, 2015 is the place to be.
Don Williams with possibly a few friends from the
"Carvers" will tempt us mere woodworkers into having a
go at the art of carving. (see page 6 for details)
So see you next Saturday.***